(c) and (d) There is a tentative proposal of involving the private sector in maintenance development operation of National Highways in the country. However, one of the pre-requisites for private sector participation is amendment of the National Highways Act, 1956 to provide levy of fee oh national Highway section, which is yet to be done in consultation with the appraisal agencies etc. It is, therefore, too early to give any indication about timing in this regard.

Direct flight to Jorhat from Delhi

213. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURA GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to connect Jorhat with a direct flight from Delhi in its next time schedule; and

(b) whether Government are aware that in the absence of a direct air service from Delhi to Jorhat, the commuting public has to incur extra expenditure and wastage of time while proceeding via Calcutta?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In the existing schedule of Indian Airlines, the passengers travelling between Delhi and Jorhat have been provided with immediate connection at Guwahati, three days a week on each side.

Abolishing the restricted area pennit for North East Region

214. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURA GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry moved the Ministry of Home Affairs for abolishing the Restricted Area Permit from the North East in order to attract foreign tourists; and

(b) if so, what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) The Department of Tourism has been making proposals from time to time for relaxation of the Restricted Areal Protected area regime in the North Eastern States with a view to promoting tourism.

(b) Government have made certain relaxations in the existing procedure and opened certain areas in the North Eastern States for Tourism keeping in view the security cons-raints.

Construction of Yatri Niwas in Assam

215. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURA GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct few Yatri Nivas for the low budget tourists in Assam; and

(b) if so, what are the places selected for the purpose.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Guwahati.

Upgradation of Andhra Pradesh roads to National Highways

216. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SUR FACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh have suggested to the Central Government to upgrade certain roads in the State to National highways;

(b) if so, what are the details of the same;

(c) whether any programme has been drawn up for the upgradation of such state roads; and

(d) if so, what progress has been made in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is annexed. (See below)

(c) and (d) A composite programme for the declaration of new National Highways in various States including those pertaining to Andhra Pradesh would be taken up only after finalisation of the 8th Five Year Plan, subjeet to availability of funds and other criteria laid down for the purpose. It is, therefore, too early to spell out the position of this point of time.

Statement

Detail of roads proposed by the Government of Andhra Prades h for new Naticvcl Highways in the 8th Five Year Plan

Sl, No,	Name of the Road	Length (in km)
(1)	Vijaywada to Machilipatnam	70
(2)	Kakinada to Jagadalpur via Rajahmundry Bhadrachalam and Venkatapuram	360
(3)	Hyderabad to Venkatapur via Warangal	260
(4)	Ongole to Raichur via Giddalur-Nandyal Kurnool and Uppal	340
(5)	Chitoor to Badrachalam via Cuddapah-Markapur-Macherla-Nagar Junasagar and Khammam,	680
(6)	Hyderabad to Chandrapur via warimnagar and Mancherial connecting NH-6 and 7.	332
(7)	Badrachalam-Chintur-Sileru-Chintapally-Paderu-Araku-Vizianagaram-Palakonda-Srikakulam on NH, 5	400
(8)	Naidupeta-Tirupati-Chitoor connecting NH, 5 vnd 4,	130
(9)	Red Hills on NH, 5 in Tamil Nadu to Gooty on NH, 7 via Puttur-Renigunta-Cuddapah-Verraguntla	330
(10)	Neloree to Hubli via Gooty,	370
(11)	Palamaneru to anantapur connecting NH, 4 and NH, 7	228
(12)	Kurnool to Chitoor,	368
(13)	Penugonda-Hindupur-Madhugiri-Sira upto Karnataka border connecting NH, 7 and NH, 4	74
(14)	From State border near Bhainsa to Lakshettipet via Nirmal,	170
(15)	Ongole to Anmanthapur connecting NH, 4 and 13,	231
(16)	Bellary (in Karnataka) to Deogarh (in Orissa) via Aluru-Adoni-Raichur-Mahaboobnagar-Nalgonda-Khammam-Bhadrachalam-Chintur- Narsipatnam-Saluru-Gunupur-Bhadragiri,	1220
(17)	Palamaneru-Venkataginikota-Kuppam-Repanapalle-Krishnagiri (in Tamil-Nadu)	100
(18)	Hyderabad-Sangareddy-Nanded-Akola Road	241
	Total	5995